

A

LETTER

FROM A

CLERGYMAN in CORK,

TO

PHILADELPHICUS.

MICAH, Chap. ii. Verse 1:

*Woe to them that devise Iniquity, and work Evil upon
their Beds; when the Morning is light they practise
it, because it is in the Power of their Hand.*



D U B L I N :

Printed in the Year 1750.

Jan 2

LETTER

GEORGE H. COLE



PHILADELPHIA

PAID BY THE
MUSEUM

1876

D. C. B. & L. W.

Printed in the Year 1876



A
L E T T E R
FROM A
CLERGYMAN in *CORK*,
T O
PHILADELPHICUS.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE, with much Pleasure and Satisfaction, read over your two Pamphlets, which are clear as Truth, and plain like Honesty, needing no Disguise.

I and every Man must give Credit to the Facts narrated by you; because I am well and truly informed that you shew'd every Paragraph before you published it, to the several Persons named by you, and concerned in it, and asked them whether they contain-

ed Truth, and whether you had their Leave to say so much, and make that publick Use of their Names.—

But you have omitted a very grand Point, which every honest Man here knows to be true, and of which we talk with the Indignation and Resentment it deserves; and that is, the poor Cunning and Art, the gross Hypocrisy and Dissimulation with which this whole iniquitous Scheme was carried on against Mr. *D--ll--s*, to the great Discredit of our Religion and Church, as well as to the great Grief and Concern of all good and honest *Protestant* Men, both of the Clergy and Laity.

It is well known that a certain worthy Bishop and an Arch-Deacon told the B——p of *C--k*, that as it would be impossible for him to prove, in his Consistory Court of *Cork*, a clandestine Marriage against Mr. *D--ll--s* (for so was the Libel against him) seeing the Witnesses of the Marriage were of the Laity, whom the Canons could not affect, and should he cite them to appear there, as they were Persons of Fortune and Rank, would not bear Witness to criminate themselves; and if he proceeded against them for Contumacy, would each procure a Prohibition from the *King's-Bench*; therefore advised his L--sh-p to take a reasonable Submission in his Court from Mr. *D--ll--s*, for any Offence offered by him to his Jurisdiction, that his L—ship might expect, and would have this from Mr. *D--ll--s*, as he had offered it, or any reasonable Satisfaction, by Dr. *Rogers*, the Reverend Dr. *Donnellane*, Mr. *Oliver*, the Right Honourable and Reverend Lord Viscount *Strangford*, the Right Reverend Lord Bishop of *Clogher*, the most Reverend his Grace *Arthur* Lord Archbishop of *Cashel*, Counsellor *John Fitzgibbon*, Mr. Alderman *Fuller*, the Reverend Mr. *Brown* the Bishop of *Cork's* Son, and others.

This the B——p of *C--k* seemed to approve of; and would to God, for the Peace of the Church, the
Honour

Honour of the Episcopal Office, and the Credit of the *Protestant* Religion, he had followed this good, Christian and discreet Advice.

But influenced by worse Counsels, or hurried on by Motives not laudable, he was resolved that he would follow as much of this Scheme as should bring Mr. *D—ll—s* to a Submission and Confession, to free him from the insuperable Difficulty of proving the Crime alledged: But at the same Time to encourage him to this Submission so artfully and cautiously, that no Promise or Assurance should be taken hold of as coming from the B—p's Mouth; and tho' he might give Hints, Looks and Gestures of Mercy, no express Stipulation should be proved. Hence all these Cautions to the Rev. Mr. Dean *Mead*, not to speak to Mr *D—ll—s* himself, to get a third Person to tell it, to take Care of what he said to so dangerous a Man, and that nothing should seem to come as any Offer or Security from the B—p of *C--k*.

And this will be the Key to open all the Mystery, and let us into the deep Stratagems and Policy, the Art and Cunning with which the B—p of *C--k* conducted this Affair, as well as to the Surprize and Astonishment of all the Spectators at the several Turns of this Cause, who could not penetrate into the mysterious Steps affected by the B--p in it, nor understand the Meaning of his dark Speeches. Hence proceeded that Finesse of the B--p's Behaviour on the Court Day, *March 6, 1748-9*, when Mr. *D--ll--s* made his Confession and Submission, as if he was surprized at it, and knew not the Cause, but was in Pain for Mr. *D—ll—s* hurting himself by Confession.

The Conversation of the B-p with Dean *M--de* happened but on *Sunday, March 4*, and was delivered to Mr. *D—ll—s* *Monday, March 5*, and repeated on the Morning of *March 6*, by Mr. *Bristow*, Mr. *Oliver*, Mr. *Carleton*, &c. yet on that very Court Day the B—p of *C--k* affects an entire and absolute Ignorance of all

that had passed ; which is all of a Piece, and in exact Conformity with the Art and Chicanery with which the B—p conducted this whole Business.——To shew you that this is the Fact and Truth of this Matter, see the Reverend Mr. Dean M--d's Account of it, in his Conduct published at C--k, and in *Dublin*, Pages 5 and 6.

The Dean there tells us, that he heard that Mr. D--ll-s had accordingly made the Submission, induced (as he believes) thereto by the Motives he had proposed to Mr. D--ll-s, of the B--p of C--k's Wishes and Intentions.——But, on *March 11*, he is alarmed to hear that, notwithstanding his Submission, the B--p was preparing a Sentence of Degradation against him; and in this Surprize goes to Church, *March 12*, to meet the B--p and expostulate with him; but he, with his designed artful and premeditated Contrivance, avoids the Dean, and eludes him of any Opportunity to speak to him: Therefore the Dean tells us, that on *March 13* he went again to Church, to tell his L--ship that he was alarmed at what he heard; but the B--p, with his usual Art and Policy, gives him the Slip again, and would not come into the Vestry where the Dean was, and as his Custom usually brought him, but passes by him: Upon which the Dean, now resolved to be no longer thus eluded and avoided, follows him to his House and overtakes him in the Church-yard, and walks with him to his House; and having forced him to a Meeting, tells his L——ship, that he is surprized to hear that he had employed two Lawyers to draw up a Sentence of Degradation against Mr. D--ll-s, who had submitted at his (the Dean's) Instance, and according to his L-p's Directions to him.

The B--p could not resist this home Remonstrance; nor had he the Courage to out-face the Dean and deny his own Words (as he endeavoured to do afterwards) nor so much as to qualify and explain away his

his Promise, but flies to L--s for his Refuge (as saith the Scriptures) and regrets that Letters from great Men, his Friends, would not permit him to stand to his Promise and Intents, and reads, or rather pretends to read, a Paragraph from his Friend, advising him to make an Example of Mr. D--ll--s, or he should be despised by them, and be thought to be baffled by him.

You know that we in *Cork* are all very sensible, that the Names of some great Men in *Dublin* are often prostituted by pretended Creatures of theirs, to Jobs and Schemes they know nothing of, and which they, as may be expected from their Characters, abhor and detest. And it is thus the B--p thought to skreen a Breach of H-n--r, F--th and C-nsc--nce, by the pretended Authority and Advice of Persons of Distinction, averse to such little Arts.

But let us proceed, and look through the whole Process of the Trial, and you'll see it carried on with the same crafty Subtlety of deceiving, and every Step of the Conduct bearing a double Face and Meaning.

To lull Mr. D--ll--s into a fatal Security, and make him believe that the B--p had accepted his Submission and Acknowledgment, and that there was now an End of it, and that he might not too soon take Alarm and acquaint his Friends, that both he and they were deceived, Mr. *All--ne*, Proctor of Office, is immediately sent by the Judge while yet on the Bench, to whisper a kind Message from his L--p, viz. To be easy in his Mind, to attend his School as usual, not to appear again next Court Day, and look upon the Adjournment of the Court for Sentence as only matter of Form.——This was again repeated to him before Company, and I believe honestly meant by the Proctor, who praised the B--p's generous Behaviour and forgiving Temper, and congratulated Mr. D--ll--s, before two Friends, on the happy and peaceable Issue of this troublesome Suit.

And thus all was tranquil, Mr. D--ll--s was thus made easy, and his Friends well pleased; and People were highly delighted both with the Lenity of him who forgave, and the Humility of the Person who had submitted.

But short were these halcyon Days, and an alarming Catastrophe soon followed; for now with Silence and Astonishment it is whispered, that all is not well, nor over; that two Counsellors have Directions to draw up a very firm Sentence of Degradation; and that Mr. H--n--g of Cloyne, a Man now highly applauded for his great Skill in Ecclesiastical Polity and Courts, is sent for to assist the B--p in Consultation, and make all valid, sure and irrevocable.

On *March* 14 is the next Court Day; but we were still kept in the Dark, for neither the B--p or Mr. D--ll--s appeared there, and nothing spoke publicly of the Affair; but it is suspected by a very few, that the B--p at his House gave private Orders to the Proctor of Office to continue the Rule to admonish Mr. D--ll--s to attend and hear Sentence.

In three or four Days the whole dark and cruel Scene of Perfidy and foul Play opens, and there are loud Clamours, and every Body with Surprise hears that Mr. D--ll--s was deceived and betrayed; that the B--p declared to Mr. P--rk--r, Col. C--ltb--st and others, that he never gave the least Promises or Assurances of Pardon to Mr. D--ll--s or his Friends; that he had the Sentence ready, and would go through stich with the Degradation.

To confirm all this Mr. All--ne, Proctor of Office, is ordered by the B--p to go in Person and admonish Mr. D--ll--s to appear next Court Day and hear his Sentence; and before two Gentlemen present, the Proctor, with Eyes and Hands lifted up to Heaven, with Expressions of Horror and Astonishment, that any Man could be capable of such a pernicious Scheme

Scheme and v-ll-n-s Contrivance, delivers the Admonition with Grief and Concern, and says, " Oh !
 " poor Man, you are vilely, basely, cruelly betray'd,
 " *Ec. Ec. Ec.*"

And yet still the Conductor of this Plot observed his Uniformity of the double Face ; for there were Hints, Looks and Gestures, that the B--p might not carry Matters to Extremity ; nay, there was not a Man thought he or any Man was capable of doing so after what had passed——And therefore Mr. D--ll-s was only to be verbally told to appear, to inveigle and allure him to come, but no legal Process to be served on him, for that might make him complain, startle him, and prevent his personal Appearance, and spoil all the Plot. However, Mr. D--ll-s having a Call to the Country, and not being legally cited, thought it best to keep off, and observe at a Distance ; and judging it neither prudent or safe to trust to those who had so often deceived him, stay'd where he was, to see what a Day might bring forth.

He from thence sent in his Apology to extenuate his Fault, to move the Court, and to soften some of the Clergy, who had often done the same, and so were in the same Condemnation.

The B--p now made a Handle of this Apology, as a sufficient Reason to revoke any Assurances he had given to Mr. D--ll-s or Friends, and also to justify his intended future Severity ; and this innocent and humble Remonstrance was by him judged and declared to be a vile, scandalous and false Libel on his Lordship, the Clergy, the Canons and the Laws ; so that now, in the poor and vulgar Stile of the Letter, Mr. D--ll-s had no Chance to escape.

But still to give a Pretence to his Family and Creatures to proclaim his Mercy and Tenderneſs, he gives out he will still pardon Mr. D--ll-s on the Terms which he shall prescribe to him, but resolves that they shall be such, that if Mr. D--ll-s has the least
 Grain

Grain of Spirit, or Sparkle of Honesty in him, he will never accept; or if through Temptation of the Fear of Poverty, Disgrace, and the Ruin of his Family, he should submit, they shall be such as will render him more infamous than Degradation could.

And here, who could imagine that a *Protestant B—p*, of the Church of *Ireland*, would so much debase and depreciate the Honour of the Priesthood and Office of the Ministry, or be so inhuman, as to demand such cruel, hard, and dishonourable Conditions from a Scholar, a Gentleman allied to most of the best Families in the Country, and a Clergyman.—Nay, had Mr. *D—ll—s* through Weakness or worldly Views consented, he ought to have been immediately stripp'd of his Gown, and deem'd unworthy of that Order, and the Company and Friendship of honest Men.—How savage then and barbarous must his Mind be, who wou'd force a Man to this, for a small Offence in common to him with all his Brethren of the Profession.

And thus you see with what deliberate Study and deceitful Art, this Affair was carried on in the Consistory Court of *C—rk*, and how this renowned Politician thought he had Policy and Craft deep enough to carry his most revengeful Views, and yet to deceive Mankind, and pass for one of the most merciful and tenderest of Men, if you'll take his own Word for it.

But Honesty will be found to be the best Policy, and Truth the surest Defence for his over-acting mysterious Way, opened the Eyes of the Clergy as well as Laity, and they soon perceived that he intended to make Tools of them, and lay all the Blame on his Clergy's Counsel, if he could prevail to make it appear, that they advis'd him, either to inforce his Penance and Confession, or to degrade him upon his Refusal.

And

And one may see this very Plan intended, and interwoven thro' the whole Account, given by the Author of a Letter from a Clergyman of the Diocess of C—k, &c.

I have heard that there is an Advertisement in the News Papers, wherein the B—p of C——k acknowledges himself to be the Author of this Letter, which I cannot reconcile to common Sense and Reason. For, upon Supposition that his L——sh-p is the Author thereof, the whole Letter will seem to be one continued Solecism and Falshood, or, what tolerable Sense can be made of numerous Passages in it, wherein the Author and the B—p of C——rk, are represented as two Persons quite distinct and different, of which give me leave at present to point out a few.

In Page 7. Line 26. And that this, *viz.* Mercy and Lenity was the Disposition of the Bishop from the Beginning, I knew myself—In Page 12. Line 7. I heard the Bishop of Cork tell Mr. *Alleyne*, &c.

In page 12. line 23. In some Discourse I had with the Bishop about this Affair, &c. In page 13. the Bishop added, that if this was done, &c. In page 14. line 6. I asked the Bishop what Kind of publick Acknowledgment he expected, he then told me, he should be contented, &c. and line 16. of the same Page, and the Bishop then told me, that he had let one of the Clergy know his Intentions, &c. In page 28. line 29. On *Friday* following, which was the Court Day, I waited on the Bishop at Eleven o'Clock in his Study, and found him in doubt, &c.

By what Rule of Logic, or Art of Magic can the Bishop thus divide himself into two opposite Persons of different Operations, contradictory Employments, and Sentiments so contrary; so that one and the same Person should both ask the Question and Answer

swer, that he should testify of himself to himself, inform himself, as not knowing them of his Thoughts and Intentions he hears, and is heard to speak to, by and of himself, and his own self is solemnly addressed by himself ; and complimented by the same self : How does he himself discourse with himself, and that with others in the Conversation, how comes it, that the Bishop knows not the Mind and Intent of the Bishop, till the Bishop asks the Bishop to discover it to the Bishop ? And pray how does the Bishop inform the Bishop of Things, the Bishop knew not before ? And in a Word, to get out of this nauseous Nonsense and Solecism, how did my Lord the Bishop wait so often on his own Lordship, and the Bishop of *Cork* want to consult so frequently the Wisdom of the Lord Bishop of *Cork*, by his Lordship's admiring and revering his Lordship's Plans.

I protest this is a new Invention of the grand Sublime, and no common Figure of Rhetoric.

Besides the Confusion of Words and Sentiments, the perplexed Stile, and rude Connexion, the low poor Diction, and the harsh and vulgar Language, can hardly induce me to think that it could be written by a Bishop.

Farther how can the Bishop be the Author of this Letter, and yet without Breach of Modesty and Decency, testify so amply of his own merciful Disposition, Tenderness, pure Intentions, Truth, Justice, Uprightness, Moderation, Calmness of Temper, Serenity, Meekness and Forgiveness, upon great Provocations, and yet magnify imaginary Injuries which his Reader cannot find done to him, and lament evil Treatment, where no Man can see it either intended or offered to him. The very Advertisement, of which I have seen a supposed Copy, is an Original of no, or very ambiguous and mysterious Signification : The Words are,

As

As I have been frequently applied to, to know whether the Facts are true, which are related in a Pamphlet lately published in *Dublin*, intituled, a Letter from a Clergyman of the Diocess of *Cork* to his Friend in *Dublin*, relating to the Conduct of the Bishop of *Cork*, in the Degradation of Mr. *D--l--s*, I think it proper in this publick Manner, to acknowledge, that I am the Author of it—

Jemmet Cork and Ross.

Since the Advertiser does not see fit to tell us whether the Facts contained in the Letter are true or not, I know no possible Sense of these Words, but one of these two Meanings, That if any want to know whether the Facts related in the Letter are true or false, let him know that they are as true as if *J--met L--d B--p of C--rk and R--s*, had told them, which is, and shall be for a Proverb in *C--k*, and in all the neighbouring Regions thereof—Or, the Sense must be, That as the Facts are related by his *L--p of C--rk and R--s*, if any Man dares to question them, he shall for such Breach of Privilege be brought before the Rt. Hon. *H--se of P--s*.

The Revd. Mr. Dean *M--d*, the Revd. Mr. Dean *G--ldsm--tb*, Mr. Archdeacon *R--der*, the Vicar-General, and other Clergymen, who were either concerned in the Affair of Mr. *D--ll--s*, or spoke in the Visitation, *April 12th, 1749*, have declared their Sentiments to the Publick, and only vindicated their Characters, with that Modesty, good Sense and Probity, they are known eminently to possess, and have staked their well known Credit for the Truth of what they assert in their own Justification: And truly one should think that their *B--p* might regard what Men of their Piety, Learning, and established Reputation so solemnly declare, and would see fit to do them Justice.

Instead

Instead of this, it is now notoriously known in C—k, that Menaces, Promises, Flatteries and all de-
ceivable Methods of Unrighteousness, have been for
many Days past, and still are made use of, to pro-
cure Hands to give them the Lye. Poor Curates
and other Clergymen, as well as some of the Laity
have been every Day closeted and dealt with to con-
tradict these worthy and eminent Men.

Some have had the Virtue, Spirit, and firmness
of Mind absolutely to refuse, but as there are weak,
avaricious, fickle and designing Persons in all Orders
of fallible Men, others have signed the whole, and
some to a Part, or Parts of the B-p's Pamphlet; as it
is now called : Some of whom have already repent-
ed what they have done, and particularly one this
very Morning, lamented to me his Weakness in so
doing, and expressed the greatest Grief and Concern,
that he had been unthinkingly inveigled, and indu-
ced to promote by his signing what he now sees to
be a very ill Design.

Does not every Body here know, that they who
now excite an unchristian Opposition, and shameful
Contradiction of the Clergy to one another, have
ever since they had Power or Interest here, promo-
ted Faction, Party, and Divisions among the Laity ?
have they not already distracted the Neighbourhood
and Families ? and now to the Grief of all honest
Men and good Protestants, and to the Joy of our
Enemies, endeavour to rend the Church here, and
to set Clergymen by the Ears together, to be a Ridi-
cule to too many, who only wait for our halting.
Do they intend to sacrifice Religion, Charity, and
the Work of the Ministry, in saving Men's Souls,
to selfish Views, and violent and ill natur'd Passi-
ons ? to Discord and Wrath, to Strife and Revenge.
For as St. James tells us, Chapter 3d. Verse 14. to
the End. *But if ye have bitter Murmuring and Strife
in your Hearts, glory not, and lye not against the Truth.*
This

This Wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For, where Envyng and Strife is, there is Confusion and every evil Work. But the Wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable and easy to be entreated, full of Mercy and good Fruits, without Partiality, and without Hypocrisy. And the Fruit of Righteousness is sown in Peace, of them that make Peace.

Can this produce any Thing but discredit to Religion, and Contention among Protestants and good Christians.

Wou'd to God that the Promoter or Promoters of these Evils wou'd think soberly, and laying aside such distracting and pernicious Schemes, ponder these awful Denunciations of our common Lord and Master, St. *Math.* ch. 18. v. 7. *Wo unto the World, because of Offences, it must needs be, that Offences come, but wo to that Man by whom the Offence cometh.* And St. *Luke*, chap. 17. v. 1, 2, 3. 4. then said he unto the Disciples, *It is impossible but that Offences will come, but wo unto Him, through whom they come. It were better for Him that a Millstone were hanged about his Neck, and he cast into the Sea, than that he should offend one of these little Ones. Take heed to yourselves, If thy Brother trespass against Thee, rebuke Him : And if he repent forgive Him. And if he trespass against Thee seven Times in a Day, and seven Times in a Day turn again to Thee, saying, I repent, Thou shalt forgive Him.*

I conclude, by telling you, that we think it here very hard that the B—p of C—k's Brother, Dr. St. John B—n, his Brother-in-Law Mr. Wa—house, and his Brother-in-Law, Mr. B—me, with his Cousin-German, Mr. T—as M—rd, the only four Men of the Clergy who consented to Sign to the Sentence of Degradation, shou'd be produced as Witnesses for every Word and Action, and brought to confront every Body who differs from them.

This

This last mentioned Gentleman, Mr. M--ll--d has so much Effrontery, that he must have forgot that it is notorious in C---k, and all this Neighbourhood, that he carried off an Heirefs under Age, without Consent of Guardians or Relations, to England, and there kept her till she was of Age; and yet cou'd no doubt, with a good Grace and Conscience procure and Sign a Sentence of Degradation past on Mr. D--ll--s for an honest, fair and lawful Marriage with consent of all Parties, Settlements made and finished, Property legally conveyed, and a Licence from the B-----p obtained.

But who married Mr. M--ll--rd and Lady, before she went off from C---k to England with him, He, his Cousin-German the B-----p of C---k, or his Cousin Dr. B--wn can tell much better than,

Dear S I R,

Your most obedient, faithful,

Humble Servant,

MISERIDOS.

Cork, January 8th,

1749-50.

FINIS

6 DE 58

